



## *Purple fingers a victory*

Afghan women proudly display their ink-stained fingers after casting ballots in historic parliamentary elections Sept. 18 in Lash Kar Gah, Helmand Province. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Jacob Caldwell, 173d Airborne Brigade Public Affairs)

# Afghans enjoy successful election day

By Sgt. Sara Wood

American Forces Press Service

**WASHINGTON** – The people of Afghanistan successfully voted in new leaders Sept. 18. Limited violence was reported near only a handful of voting stations, military officials said.

Afghan National Army, Afghan National Police and international military forces ensured more than 12.5 million registered voters had an opportunity to participate in the National Assembly elections in a relatively safe and secure environment.

“It’s a historical day that we have today. . . . It will be good for our future, and we will have a good future,” Jahwedolah, an Afghan police patrolman, said.

The election results will not be known for several weeks, said Maj. Gen. Jason Kamiya, commander of Combined Joint Task Force-76. While the results will be important, he said, the significance of the election process and how many people participated should not be overlooked.

“We believe the real winners in this process are the people of Afghanistan, who courageously took a stand against years of violence and oppression and took a major step forward toward peace and prosperity,” he said.

Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice praised the Afghan government and people for completing the elections, saying it was

evidence of Afghanistan’s continuing progress toward democracy.

“The extremist elements that once again attempted to disrupt the electoral process have failed, and the Afghan people, as they courageously made their ways to the polls, demonstrated their determination to proceed down a democratic path,” Rice said.

The results of these elections will lead to the seating of Afghanistan’s National Assembly, the final step in the process begun four years ago to create the democratic institutions of a sovereign country, Rice said, adding that the United States will make sure that process is seen through to the end.

“The United States is firmly committed to help Afghans build a free, secure and prosperous future and applauds the Afghan people as they advance further on their democratic journey,” she said.

About 30,000 members of the Afghan National Army and 50,000 Afghan National Police officers are in uniform providing security to the country’s people and participating in operations designed to quell any resurgence of Taliban or other terrorist organizations.

“For three decades everything has come apart and been destroyed by war. No one had the freedom to vote for the president or the National Assembly. So today is the day we vote... It’s a very important day,”

Afghan citizen Said Asem explained Sept. 18 at a polling site in Parwan.

Since Afghanistan’s last successful election, when the Afghan majority democratically elected President Hamid Karzai into office, the strength of the government has increased, military officials

said. It will only grow stronger as it will now be fueled by legitimately elected provincial representation from across Afghanistan, they added.

*Editor’s note: Some information in this story provided by Combined Forces Command Afghanistan.*

## *Huge strides demonstrated during Afghan elections*

By Spc. Jon Arguello

Task Force Bayonet Public Affairs

**QALAT, Afghanistan** – As Afghans in Zabul await the results of their historic first parliamentary elections, the central government and Coalition forces are left reflecting on the magnitude of the momentous strides the Afghan authorities in southern Afghanistan have made since Task Force Bayonet arrived in March.

The days preceding the elections, Coalition forces in Zabul were tense as they prepared to deal with insurgent attempts to undermine the government’s progress and hinder the election process. Coalition forces quickly realized however that the province’s governmental agencies have leaped forward in terms of security and assuming responsibility.

“The elections really went well from my perspective,” said Charles Wintermeyer, a credentialed elections observer from the U.S. Embassy in Kabul, and U.S. State Department official permanently stationed in the Qalat Provincial Reconstruction Team. “All election officials I observed were professional and conscientious and took pride in doing a good job in an important event.”

See **Elections** on page 5



# CFC kicks off Oct. 3

USAREUR & 7th Army  
Public Affairs Office  
News Release

**HEIDELBERG**—Making a world of difference this year may be as easy as picking up a Combined Federal Campaign Overseas Pledge Card, filling it out, and returning it to your CFC representative.

Beginning Oct. 3, U.S. Army, Europe will hold its 2005 CFC to allow servicemembers and civilians working in the European region the chance to support more than 1,700 charities that will benefit various causes all over the world.

"Helping those in need here in the European theater, in the United States and elsewhere around the world, is an affirmation of the American spirit," said Gen. B.B. Bell, the USAREUR commanding general, in a statement released on the USAREUR Web site. "The CFC is a valuable and reliable program through which we can express our desire to help."

The motto of the 2005 campaign, "Making a World of Difference," will



hopefully help people to realize even the smallest donation can go a long way when put to good use, said Mandy Huckins, CFC-O Europe executive officer.

"Many times, contributors ask us, 'what can a contribution of \$1 or \$10 really do,'" said Huckins. "Even though that amount may seem insignificant in our lives as fairly privileged American citizens, in terms of rudimentary medical supplies or food, that amount of money can do quite a lot. These donations become even more effective when multiplied by the number of contributors who support charities through the CFC-Overseas."

Last year, USAREUR raised more than \$2.8 million, the highest in USAREUR history.

"Last year's CFC in USAREUR was a tremendous success," said Brig. Gen. Russell Frutiger, the G-1 deputy chief of staff. "Let's make the 2005 campaign the best ever. Please...complete your pledge card today."

Visit the following CFC Web sites for more information: [www.opm.gov/cfc](http://www.opm.gov/cfc) or [www.cfccoverseas.org](http://www.cfccoverseas.org).

## Italian, German gas coupon information

**Editor's Note:** The following information pertaining to gas coupons is provided by AAFES.

As prescribed by the Naval Support Tax Free Administration and the Italian Ministry of Defense:

- Vehicle registration determines the amount of fuel (P-coupons) you will be entitled to monthly.

- Personnel will be allowed equal amounts of German fuel coupons as Italian.

Coupon books have valuable information on them. Please read them.

As for personnel on Temporary Duty and or leave status, authorization points to determine how much fuel coupons you are

entitled to are:

- Petroleum, Oil and Lubricants Fuel Point – Open 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday, except Italian holidays. POL is located at building #200, behind the Hall of Heroes and just before the AAFES Car Care Center.

- Military Police station – Only when POL Fuel Point is closed. Located at building 4B, southwest on post. Map available upon request from the AAFES cash cage.

You must present your orders, vehicle registration or rental agreement and identification to the authorizing personnel.

Personnel with a registered vehicle at Caserma Ederle going on leave are allowed extra liters up to

400 liters to include their current ration amount. Personnel with a monthly ration of 400 liters a month cannot get extra liters for leave.

### Refunds

No one person can have in possession more than two months' P-coupon rations at any time, according to Naval Support Tax Free Administration regulations.

P-coupons expire Sept. 30 and are refundable up to 120 days after their expiration. (Jan. 31)

G-fuel coupons issued to personnel not stationed at Caserma Ederle can be mailed in for refund.

Send a self-addressed stamped envelope to: AAFES Europe- Italy, EFA Office- Aviano AB, Unit 6195, APO, AE, 09601.

## Created to become like Christ

*The 22nd Area Support Group Chaplain's Family Life Office, in partnership with deployed SETAF and 173d Airborne Brigade chaplains, is writing a series of devotional articles based on the best-selling book, "The Purpose-Driven Life," by Rick Warren.*

*The intent of these articles is to offer deployed Soldiers and their family members a devotional meditation, which they can use for weekly discussion and to hopefully deepen their spiritual connection during the separation.*

**Chaplain (Capt.) Buddy Hammil**  
14th Transportation Battalion

*"God knew what he was doing from the very beginning. He decided from the outset to shape the lives of those who love him along the same lines as the life of his son..."*

*We see the original and intended shape of our loves there in him."*

*Romans 8:29 (The Message)*

You were created to be like Christ. From the very beginning, this has been God's plan. In the Bible's creation story, God says: "Let us make human beings in our image." (Genesis 1:26)

Some of the aspects of being made in God's image include being spiritual, intellectual, relational, and having a moral consciousness. The Bible tells us that all people, not just those who obey God, are made in his image. So why is our image so distorted?

"The image has been damaged and distorted by sin," explains Rick Warren, "that's the reason God sent Jesus on a mission to restore the full image that we have lost." (page 198)

A fully restored image of God

would look like Jesus Christ. According to the Bible, Jesus is "the exact likeness of God," "the visible image of the invisible God," and "the exact representation of his being." (Hebrews 1:3)

Rick Warren cautions, "You will never become a god. That prideful lie is Satan's oldest temptation." (page 198) God does not plan on us becoming god, but godly – taking on his values, attitudes and character. God is much more interested in our character than our comfort.

According to the Bible, it is the Holy Spirit's job to produce Christ-like character in Christians. This process of becoming more like Christ is called sanctification. We cannot reproduce the character of God by our own strength.

"God is working in you, giving you the desire to obey him and the power to do what pleases him." (Philippians 2:13)

Though we cannot reproduce God's character in our lives, we must cooperate with the Holy Spirit's work. Obedience unlocks God's power. The Holy Spirit works in us, but not against our wills. As we yield to God by obeying his instructions as found in the Bible, he will work in our life enabling us to demonstrate godly character. Growth, spiritual growth, is a slow process; don't expect it to happen overnight. But do expect it to happen as you do your part: obey.

"As the spirit of the Lord works within us, we become more and more like him and reflect his glory even more." (2 Corinthians 3:18)

In what area of my life do I need to ask for the spirit's power in order to become more like Christ? (2 Corinthians 3:18b)

## Community

### Action Council

This forum is to discuss issues that affect the community.

If you have an issue that you wish to submit, visit the 22nd Area Support Group Web site at [www.22asg.vicenza.army.mil](http://www.22asg.vicenza.army.mil) and click on the Community Action Council link. This link provides you the opportunity to review issues that have been previously submitted and responded to by post agencies. There is also a form available for you to submit any new issue you would like addressed. If you have questions, call 634-5222 or 0444-71-5222 from off post.

The command encourages you to identify yourself when submitting a CAC issue in order to be able to answer your concern directly. The command also reminds the community that CAC issues submitted containing vulgar, derogatory or inflammatory language will not be addressed.

Childcare is offered during the CAC at \$2.50 per hour, per child, for children ages 6 weeks old through kindergarten from 8:45-11:15 a.m. Preregistration is required. Children will be cared for in the Child Development Center, building 395. Children must be registered with Child and Youth Services Central Registration. Call 634-7219 or stop by their location in the Davis Family Readiness Center.

The next Community Action Council meeting is Wednesday at 9 a.m. in the Ederle Theater.

**Issue:** The quality of customer service is unacceptable. Is this because of the deployment? Some of the facilities are Burger King, Food Court, and the Post Theater. This is substandard.

*The majority of the Soldiers are deployed and this is the excuse given.*

*If a facility has hours of operation posted, then that establishment needs to be open and closed at that time.*

*Lights should be on and food should be ready when the establishment opens.*

*Customers should not be turned away at 6:45 p.m. because workers want to start mopping and cleaning when the restaurant closes at 7 p.m.*

*The box office advertises that they are open at 1 p.m.*

*I have never seen them open at that time. I stood outside in the heat, and never received an explanation as to why it opened late.*

*Quality of service should be constant. It should not change because the majority of the Soldiers are deployed.*

*These concerns should be answered.*

*I need a real answer. This is why I did not email my concerns in.*

*At the PX on Sunday I was walking through the Food Court and the floor was just mopped. The sign said wet floor. A Soldier that had crutches slipped and fell on the floor. Another Soldier picked him up.*

*I brought it up to an associate to dry the floor. I had to ask them to use a dry mop because the mop they were using was making the situation worst.*

*If the cameras are in the Food Court and someone is watching for people going back to refill their drinks, why can't they watch for this poor service?*

*I believe this is a management and leadership problem.*

**Response from AAFES:** I want to apologize for any inconveniences you may have

encountered, and for the fact you feel the service you are receiving is unacceptable.

We at AAFES genuinely value your patronage and your comments. AAFES is in the business to serve the military community; you are the reason for our existence.

Our mission is to provide quality merchandise and services and return 100 percent of the earnings back to our customers.

Two thirds of these earnings are returned back to you in the form of MWR dividends that enhance your quality of life and one third provides you with modern places to shop.

I agree AAFES should provide full service for all posted hours of operation.

Our policy is to open 5 minutes prior and close 5 minutes after our posted hours of operation.

I am reinforcing this with our management and associate teams, and have instilled checks and balances to monitor this situation.

Our Post Theater box office opens one hour prior to the movie show time.

Should you encounter anything otherwise please bring it to the facility managers attention: Gudrun Vest (who is also responsible for the Food Court) or my attention so we may immediately address it. Vest can be reached via email at [vestG@aafes.com](mailto:vestG@aafes.com) or by calling 0444-301-755.

AAFES is mandated not to waste Soldiers and Airmen's dollars as you are stockholders in our company.

As such, we do have challenges meeting corporate financial goals during this difficult time of deployment.

With the loss of sales since the deployment it is difficult to provide quality service during all operational hours, especially unproductive

hours between lunch and dinner with a limited staff.

We will continue to cross train associates ensure our management staff is visible and strive to meet your expectations.

I am personally monitoring our service we provide by doing the following:

- Posting all managers' photos and email address at all facilities, as previously we only had these in retail facilities. We want you to know who your service providers are.

- I have asked my management team to actively engage our community by ensuring they are more visible and can work any concerns with you on the spot as well as ensure we give all employees every opportunity for training.

- We do have mystery shoppers that are assisting us in viewing our service levels in all our services.

- Managers helping managers – Sharing their experiences with each other as another set of eyes in our facilities.

We employ your feedback as we want to ensure we are serving you to the best of our abilities. I encourage you to use our feedback programs:

- Talk to our facility manager either in person, phone or email. Email on photo in front of their facility.

- Email me at [gunderson@aafes.com](mailto:gunderson@aafes.com) or the AAFES Web site at [www.aafes.com](http://www.aafes.com) go under store locator, Italy Consolidated, and email the GM.

- Our comment cards in front of our facilities.

- Our monthly meet the manager at the main store.

- Mystery shopper that is available on our Web site.



# https://mypay.dfas.mil

## Employees encouraged to use online access for pay documents

*The government would save \$740,970 in postage if all of DoD’s civilian employees used myPay.*

By **Gerry J. Gilmore**  
*American Forces Press Service*

WASHINGTON – A new Defense Department policy asks servicemembers, government civilians and retirees to obtain needed pay documents from an online Web site, a Defense Finance and Accounting Service spokesman said.

Having DoD customers obtain pay documents such as leave-and-earnings and tax statements via computer rather than having hard copies mailed to them is envisioned to provide hefty savings, according to DFAS Representative Jim Pitt, the director of the agency’s myPay online system.

For example, the government would save \$740,970 in postage if all of DoD’s civilian employees used myPay, Pitt noted. The new policy is part of DoD initiatives to support President Bush’s directive for government agencies to harness the Internet to deliver services, he said.

Using the online system also assures that personal data like Social Security numbers are viewed and accessed only by each customer, Pitt said. And the myPay system, accessed at <https://mypay.dfas.mil>, soon will feature added security measures that will help protect users against identity theft, he noted.

Pitt said users who want to subscribe to myPay are required to first submit basic information via any government-sourced computer to obtain a personal identification number. Afterward, users can use their PINs to access the myPay Web site through any computer that has Internet access, he said. Another way to obtain a PIN is to call the Customer Support Center at 1-800-390-2348. PINs will be sent to customers within a few days, either via mail or by email.

Although DFAS customers still can opt to request hard-copy W-2s and LESSs, Pitt urged them to use the myPay online service to save government dollars. The myPay site also can be used to check up on pay account information and to make changes to allotments or direct deposits, he said.

A memorandum signed April 29, by Undersecretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness David S. C. Chu and DoD Comptroller Tina W. Jonas outlined the new policy, which went into effect Sept. 1.

Pitt said the lag time in implementing the policy was due to coordination and negotiations with government employee unions.

### Electronic statements through myPay

**Civilian Personnel Directorate**  
*News Release*

The Department of the Army will be offering a new way to view civilian Leave and Earnings Statements through the Defense Finance and Accounting Service’s SmartDocs.

Beginning Oct. 1, employees will receive an email notification that their SmartLES is available, including a hyperlink to the site to view the SmartLES: <https://mypay.dfas.mil>.

The email will appear as “SmartDocs@dfas.mil” in the “From” box. Employees may either click on the link <https://mypay.dfas.mil> or type it into the web browser. This link will establish a secure socket layer connection with an encrypted session, just like logging onto the myPay site.

SmartDocs is a supplemental delivery mechanism and does not replace information currently contained in myPay. There are no additional user-IDs or passwords; however, to receive the emails and access SmartLES, you must have an email address within the myPay system and a customized myPay PIN. If you do not have a PIN, go to the myPay Web page at <https://mypay.dfas.mil> to request one. By logging-in to myPay, you can see if your email address is in the system. If it isn’t, you may enter a personal email address under the “Secure Personal Email Address” area to ensure you will receive the email.

To view the fact sheet on SmartLES, log onto [www.per.hqusaEur.army.mil/cpd](http://www.per.hqusaEur.army.mil/cpd) and check out “What’s New.”

# Reintegration

## Not too early to plan

By **Maj. Gen. David T. Zabecki**  
*Commander*  
*SETAF Rear*

During the first half of the deployment there have been defining moments, successful construction and infrastructure efforts to help create a better country, and there have been deep and profound personal losses.

When it’s time for our Soldiers to return, they will bring with them the effects of these changes. It will then be time to reunite and reforge bonds with friends, family and community.

Reintegration means to become whole again and to renew, but the time to begin the renewal can and should begin before the Soldiers return.

The end of the deployment may feel far away, but in reality it is around the corner.

Because time does sneak up on us, it is never too early for families and Soldiers to start preparing for reintegration.

Starting the reintegration process now helps every member of the family as well as the deployed Soldier readjust to the demands of day-to-day life.

When a deployed Soldier has remained an active member of the family via emails, video conferencing, telephone calls, and letters, the adjustment for all persons involved is much easier.

Maintaining contact will not only keep the deployed Soldier up to date on the events and changes that have occurred in the family, such as a child learning to read, but it will also maintain and strengthen family ties despite the distance.

Starting to talk now about what your expectations are when your Soldier comes home can also help alleviate stress and anxiety.

Be honest and open with your spouse and/or family about your feelings so that you can be a support system for each other.

Also, establishing realistic expectations for the deployed Soldier, your children, and yourself will help create a smoother homecoming.

Everyone in the family has changed

since the deployment. Spouses have taken on new responsibilities, possibly started employment, and may have gained additional independence.

Children have grown developmentally, physically and emotionally; they also need time to readjust to an absent parent being in the home and playing an active parenting role.

Again, through regular contact with the family, the deployed Soldier can maintain an active parenting role despite the miles separating them.

Soldiers have also changed during the deployment; many Soldiers have learned new skills and may have added responsibilities.

Also, interests in food, music and recreation events as well as religious and political views may have changed for all persons involved.

However, by talking about these changes now, couples and families have time to prepare themselves for the changes and talk freely about their concerns.

Support for Soldiers and their families is there, you just have to reach out.

The Caserma Ederle community has a variety of resources such as Family Advocacy, Social Work Services, the chaplains, Army Community Services, and the Civilian Life Consultants to help with the reintegration process.

Additionally, Family Advocacy is sponsoring workshops as well as individual and family sessions to help families open the lines of communication.

Family members will gain information to help those persons living in the same household and they will also receive recommendations about how deployed Soldiers can maintain an active role while away.

Do not be afraid to ask for assistance and/or guidance.

That is what makes us a community helping support each other in our time of need.

Remember, be patient; everyone handles change differently and we need to support our families as they entire this new milestone.

**Numbers you need to know:**  
Toll free Military Police – 800-064-077  
*Free call from anywhere within Italy.*  
Military Police – 634-7626/7233  
Off post – 0444-71-7626

Italian Ambulance – 114  
Italian Fire Department – 117  
*These numbers are for emergencies only.*  
Patient Liaison at San Bortolo Hospital – 0444-99-3300

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# Soldiers reach deployment midpoint



SETAF Soldiers from Combined Joint Task Force-76, wait to be picked up off a mountain top outside of Kabul, Afghanistan, during a mission in June.

## SETAF reflects on half-way point

Story and photos  
By Sgt. Adrian Schulte  
CJTF-76 Public Affairs

Soldiers from the Combined Joint Task Force 76, made up of Southern European Task Force and the 173d Airborne Brigade troops, are at the midpoint of their yearlong deployment to Afghanistan.

With the successful Sept. 18 parliamentary elections and months of hard work ridding the Afghan countryside of insurgents and bettering the infrastructure and overall lives of the Afghan people, the Vicenza-based units have much to be proud of.

It is a unique mission for the headquarters Soldiers of SETAF, the majority of whom work in the Joint Operations Center on Bagram Airfield. They oversee the operations of over 16,000 Coalition troops across the country.

In looking back over the last six months, a few of those SETAF Soldiers talk about their deployment so far. While there is so much more to this operation than personnel, logistics and spiritual support, their words echo the thoughts and sentiments of many across the area of operations.

### How the mission has gone so far –

“The mission has panned out very well. We are all very proud of it because we are ready for, and will follow through, with an excellent election that includes the seating of the parliament, which takes this country and the people of Afghanistan into the next level of freedom and democracy.

“It’s a big deal, and I think the election

and the whole process counting the ballots, fighting the enemy and seating the parliament all fit pretty well.” – Lt. Col. Tim Sughrue, deputy chief of staff, CJTF-76.

“The mission is very close to what we expected and what we trained for. The loss of key personnel to taskings and special projects was an unexpected and unpleasant surprise.” – Lt. Col. John Waters, director, Manpower and Personnel, CJTF-76.

“It was very different when we first began, not necessarily knowing what was going to happen or what we were going to do. Over time we learned what it is we need to do to make sure we have adequate religious support throughout the Coalition



A physicians assistant from Company C, 173d Support Battalion, checks a Panjwayi villager's chest for congestion during Operation Lazarus. (Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Stephen Lum, 117 MPAD, Task Force Bayonet Public Affairs)

Joint Operations Area.

“And with the help of our [augmented] personnel and the rest of the task force, we have been able to pretty much accommodate all the religious needs throughout the CJOA.” – Sgt. 1st Class Paul Davidson, chaplain assistant, SETAF.

### Fulfilling expectations

“It’s been more demanding in many regards and because we have taken the fight to the enemy with SETAF-based 173d units, it’s been a lot more than I expected.

“We have lost a lot more people than I expected but at the same time, we have found the enemy, and I think we have set the conditions for the next unit rotation to be a lot easier and the fight by the Afghans against the enemy will be easier.

“It’s been harder because we have been working a lot more than we thought we would. I thought it would be more steady state over a year but it has been a lot more demanding, but we are very grateful for all the support we get.” – Lt. Col. Tim Sughrue, deputy chief of staff, CJTF-76.

“I’ve been on several deployments prior to this one; none of this caliber.

“This is essentially a division element, and I have not had the experience working with divisions. So coming into this one, I was not really sure what I was getting into.” – Sgt. 1st Class Paul Davidson, chaplain assistant, SETAF.

“After being in Iraq for 15 months, it is what I expected. For some guys, maybe if it is their first deployment, it has posed some challenges. But we are top heavy so to speak. The average guy in our shop had 13-26 years of logistical experience, so they are able to overcome adversity.” – Master Sgt. Richard Bryant, operations NCOIC, Logistics, CJTF-76.

“[Most of the] people in headquarters are just there for the ‘hey you’ missions – kind of versatile things to fill in for whatever needs to be accomplished in what the Army planned for in the first place.

“When we came here, nobody knew we

were going to have to do that, and sure enough, we’ve changed so many times and assigned so many people to different jobs.”

– Capt. Tim Benedict, executive officer, Headquarters Company, CJTF-76.

### Highlights

“The elections were a highlight because that is what we are all about here. We have been able to integrate with the [Afghan security forces] a lot more.

“I think the next biggest thing is that we are defeating the enemy – we are winning. We are also able to transition our areas of Afghanistan to International Security Assistance Force and NATO.

“Before we leave here, we will effectively have turned half of the country over.” – Lt. Col. Tim Sughrue, deputy chief of staff, CJTF-76.

“Highlights have included the naturalization ceremony, high school graduation [video teleconference] operation, and bringing MWR entertainment acts to Afghanistan, especially pushing them out to more remote sites.

“My personal favorite visitors were football players Larry Izzo and Warrick Dunn when they came for the dedication of the Pat Tillman USO Center. It was a special moment and visit.” – Lt. Col. John Waters, director, Manpower and Personnel, CJTF-76.

“I would say the highlights of this deployment would be the networking between the several different forces we have here.

“We have Army, Navy and Air Force chaplain assistants and chaplains all working together to accomplish one common goal, and we have been able to mesh very well.

“I have two reservists who work in this office who by far, this office could not have been able to do the things we have done without their help.” – Sgt. 1st Class Paul Davidson, chaplain assistant, SETAF.

Continued on page 5



“Then the simple things that have made the quality of life better for our Soldiers, whether it be for kitchen equipment, washers and dryers, or making sure the up-armored humvees are out there for the guys – there are just so many things that you can go over.” – Master Sgt. Richard Bryant, operations NCOIC, Logistics, CJTF-76.

**Challenges**

“The challenge is that we are doing an economy of force operation. Meaning we don’t have overwhelming fire power or people in this theater to do anything and everything we want.

“So we have to plan very effectively, execute with limited recourses in some cases, but not to the point that will endanger our Soldiers conducting operations.

“We just have to pick the right one to go after and go do it, and then we won’t have the luxury of having many more assets to do all the peripheral things.” – Lt. Col. Tim Sughrue, deputy chief of staff, CJTF-76.

“Nothing comes quickly in Afghanistan. Patience – learning patience when requisitioning something or whatever the case is. Nothing comes easy in Afghanistan.” – Master Sgt. Richard Bryant, operations NCOIC, Logistics, CJTF-76.

“We left in such a hurry after so many training exercises, missions and block leave and everything else, so the people who deployed here left in such a hurry they didn’t nail down property issues. So it’s been a property nightmare.” – Capt. Tim Benedict, executive officer, Headquarters Company, CJTF-76.

**The next six months**

“I’m looking forward to seeing a lot of the hard work we have done pay off even more.

“I’m looking forward to see the country getting to its next phase, where they accept the elections and accept democracy.

“I’m looking forward to going home and finishing this up.” – Lt. Col. Tim Sughrue, deputy chief of staff, CJTF-76.

“I’m looking forward to returning home. Waiting on 10th Mountain to come in and take over.” – Sgt. 1st Class Paul Davidson, chaplain assistant, SETAF.

“We have one of those sections where the initiative doesn’t stop until we actually hit ground back in our home station.

“We are starting to gear up for redeployment and that is our next big target.” – Master Sgt. Richard Bryant, operations NCOIC, Logistics, CJTF-76.

“Now my focus is on trying to get everyone back. It’s more exciting when you are working towards that goal.

“It will be rewarding to move all the people and equipment back to home base.” – Capt. Tim Benedict, executive officer, Headquarters Company, CJTF-76.

**Support from Caserma Ederle**

“The folks back in Vicenza have helped out a great deal. The support is phenomenal.

“Every day you see the mail come in or you hear about the phone calls or you hear about everything they are doing and how they are able to fill in various activities back there to support the community.” – Lt. Col. Tim Sughrue, deputy chief of staff, CJTF-76.

“I view our rear detachment G1 as a success and attribute that to the hard work and expertise of Pat McLean and the small team of Soldiers and one civilian working there.” – Lt. Col. John Waters, director, Manpower and Personnel, CJTF-76.

“The family support groups have been doing marvelous things back there in keeping in touch with us and keeping us abreast on how things have been going with the families.

“Rear detachment unit ministry teams have been doing very well especially in the area of memorial services.” – Sgt. 1st Class Paul Davidson, chaplain assistant, SETAF.

“The maintenance division and the supply division, whether it is maintaining unit readiness or making sure if we are sending equipment back that they are there to receive it and basically just starting to set up the redeployment of the brigade.

“The rear detachment has helped out leaps and bounds since day one.” – Master Sgt. Richard Bryant, operations NCOIC, Logistics, CJTF-76.

**Thoughts on the deployment**

“I’m proud of every one of our Soldiers from Vicenza. I’m proud of everyone of our family members who are with us everyday and of all the community coming together to support this effort, because it’s not easy.” – Lt. Col. Tim Sughrue, deputy chief of staff, CJTF-76.

“Everyday is different, but the same.” – Lt. Col. John Waters, director, Manpower and Personnel, CJTF-76.



The Combined Joint Task Force 76 logistics maintenance chief hands out school supplies to young Afghan girls during a humanitarian mission to an all-girl school and orphanage in Charikar village near Bagram Airfield, May 9.



An Afghan man casts his ballot at a polling station in Lash Kar Gah, Helmand Province, Sep. 18. Polling stations were busy, but orderly, across the city. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Jacob Caldwell, 173d Airborne Brigade Public Affairs)

# ELECTIONS: *Huge strides demonstrated during Afghan elections*

Not only did the Afghan election officials leave little room for criticism, Zabul province’s security agencies, including the Afghan National Army and Police performed beyond expectations in an impressive show of force as they kept insurgents at bay and seemed to secure the entire region dotting the province with strategic checkpoints and security stations.

“We have secured the city and provided the people with a safe environment to vote in,” said Col. Habib Khan, Zabul’s antiterrorism chief. “The enemy has had no effect on the elections and the day has been a big success. The enemy was unable to disrupt our democratic process.”

The effectiveness of the security agencies was obvious in Zabul. Once known as a safe haven for Taliban insurgents, it seemed to be void of their presence on election day.

Afghans in line waiting to vote seemed eager and anxious for their turn as those who had already cast their ballot and contributed to the future of Afghanistan waited for their friends outside showing off their purple index fingers, demonstrating that they had participated in Afghanistan’s first parliamentary elections.

The lines were long and were demographically diverse with people young and old who waited for long periods of time to have a say in the future of their country.

“We are very proud,” said ANP Maj. Matin, of the criminal investigation department, who goes by one name. “Not only because we have defeated the Taliban today and provided security, but because we have demonstrated we are a true democracy. I am very proud.”

Although U.S. forces kept a low profile during the historic event, they received praise from Khan for helping them reach this milestone.

“It is because of [Americans] that we were able to achieve this today,” said Khan. “It is with their help that we got to this point and it will be because of our continued partnership that we will move forward to the day when we will achieve ultimate success.”

As the polls closed and the Afghan authorities transported the ballots to the counting station in Qalat, the anxiety about insurgent activity had transformed into anxiousness as the Afghan people wait for the results of their historic first parliamentary elections.

The success of the election is clear to everyone involved in the process.

“The elections went very well,” said Jeton Ujkani, the United Nation’s count manager for the province. “The whole world knows they have held democratic elections.”

For many Afghans, the elections represent more than a change of government.

“Today we have democracy,” said Rahmatullah, an Afghanistan National Army pilot who flew ballots from remote voting stations to the provincial counting center in Qalat. “With these elections we have stepped through a door that will lead us to the future.”



# Out & About



By Dorothy Spagnuolo

## Renaissance market

There will be a renaissance market in the town of Thiene this weekend. Open from 9 a.m.-8 p.m., be taken back to the 15th century and walk among nobles, sellers, buyers, peasants, artisans, minstrels and common people.

There will be 12,500 square miles filled with 150 stalls and activities and over 1,200 people in the renaissance costumes.

There will also be shows offered by groups of the EURO XVI nations.

In Villa Fabris, on exhibition will be over 50 medieval costumes from Spain, France, Germany and Belgium. The villa is open over the weekend from 9:30 a.m.-10 p.m. Entrance is free. Thiene is located 19 kilometers from Vicenza.

## Rice festival

The 39th Rice Festival in the town of Isola della Scala, province of Verona, is underway and end Sunday. The food tents serving rice dishes are open Monday-Saturday from noon-2 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.-midnight. On Sunday they are open noon-midnight.

During the rice festival find exhibitions open with mostly free entrance and music groups playing in the evening.

Packages of rice, *Riso Vialone Nano Veronese*, which is grown in the area will be on sale.

To reach Isola della Scale, leave the A-4 autostrada at Verona Sud (south) and follow signs for Modena SS-12.

The town is located 18 kilometers from the autostrada exit.

## Distilleries open

To see how Grappa is made several distilleries around Vicenza will be opening their doors on Sunday and Oct. 9.

Grappa, Brandy's Italian cousin, is a drink distilled from *vinacce*, the skins and seeds left in the fermenting tanks after the wine is transferred to casks to age.

It used to be a poor-man's drink, made to extract everything possible from the grape.

In the distilleries you will be able to see the century-old process of transforming the winemaking leftovers into powerful, but increasingly elegant grappa.

Find the following doors open each Sunday from 10 a.m.-6 p.m.:

- Ponte di Barbarano – Distilleria dal Toso Rino & Figlio
  - Montegalda – Distilleria F.lli Brunello
  - Villaga – Distilleria Li.Di.A;
  - Costabissara – Distilleria Schiavo
  - Schiavon – Poli Distillerie.
- Poli distillery also has a grappa museum in Bassano.

## Mongrel Festival

Because of bad weather the 8th *Festa del Bastadino*, Mongrel Festival, didn't take place on Sept. 18, but will be held this Sunday.

See Mister Dog and Miss Doggy starting at 2 p.m. in Parco Querini, downtown Vicenza.

Sponsored by the kennel in Marola, the dogs will give a spectacular show with races, best dog competition, Frisbee game and more.

There will also be a small food stand, a *pesca di beneficenza*, fishing for prizes, and an information booth. All proceeds will go to the upkeep of the animals in the Marola kennel.

Don't forget to give your pet an extra stroke on World Animal Day on Oct. 4.

Vicenza will have information booths in the city center on Sunday giving out information on animals.

## Super Bikes

The Super Bike World Championship race will be held Friday through Sunday at Imola's racetrack.

The first two days see the qualifying practices. On Sunday the warm ups are between 9-9:50 a.m. with the races starting at noon.

## Van Gogh and Millet

Two important exhibitions, in terms of the size and quality of works featured, will open on Oct. 22 at the Museo di Santa Giulia in the city of Brescia.

The first is dedicated to Jean-Francois Millet. Sixty works on display are on loan from the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, which possesses the largest collection in the world of the artist's works, to include paintings, pastels and drawings.

At the other exhibition enjoy seeing works by Van Gogh. It is said that the artistic personality of the Dutch painter was greatly influenced by Millet's drawings and paintings.

It will be possible to compare the works of Van Gogh with those of Millet since the two exhibitions are just a few steps away from each other.

The Santa Giulia Museum opens at 8:30 a.m. and closes Monday-Thursday at 8 p.m., Friday at 10 p.m., Saturday at 11 p.m., and Sunday at 9 p.m.

The exhibitions ends on March 19. More information can be found at [www.lineadombra.it](http://www.lineadombra.it)

## The magic circus

In Palazzo dei Pio, in the town of Carpi, about an hour's drive from Vicenza, there will be a circus on ice on Oct. 9.

There will be ice-skaters from Siberia, Lapland, Alaska, Arctica and Antarctica. There will also be an ice-skating show by marionettes. The show starts at 3:30 p.m.

## USO programs

USO is also offering beginning and advanced Salsa Dance classes at Club Veneto starting Thursday. Classes will start with the beginning salsa from 5:30-6:30 p.m. and advanced salsa from 6:30-7:30 p.m. The cost is \$10 per class, \$35 per month or \$65 per couple per month.

In October conversational Italian language level I and II will be offered. Level I will start on Oct. 25 and run through Dec. 20. It will meet every Tuesday and Thursday nights from 5:30-7:30 p.m. The cost is \$96.

Level II will be held Oct. 29-Jan. 20. This is a 10-week course held every Friday night from 5:30-7:30 p.m.

For information or to sign up for any or all of the programs offered, contact Linda at the USO center at 634-7156 or 347-635-6508.

# Now Showing

## Caserma Ederle Theater

Sept. 28	The Island (PG-13)	7 p.m.
Sept. 29	The Island (PG-13)	7 p.m.
Sept. 30	Dukes Of Hazzard (PG-13)	7 p.m.
	The Devil's Reject (R)	10 p.m.
Oct. 1	Charlie and the Chocolate Factory (PG)	2 p.m.
	Bad News Bears (PG-13)	7 p.m.
	Dukes of Hazzard (PG-13)	10 p.m.
Oct. 2	Dukes of Hazzard (PG-13)	2 p.m.
	Charlie and the Chocolate Factory (PG)	7 p.m.
Oct. 5	Bad News Bears (PG-13)	7 p.m.
Oct. 6	The Devil's Reject (R)	7 p.m.
Oct. 7	Wedding Crashers (R)	7 p.m.
	Deuce Bigalow: European Gigolo (R)	10 p.m.
Oct. 8	Sky High (PG)	2 p.m.
	Deuce Bigalow: European Gigolo (R)	7 p.m.
	Hustle & Flow (R)	10 p.m.
Oct. 9	Sky High (PG)	2 p.m.
	Deuce Bigalow: European Gigolo (R)	7 p.m.

## Camp Darby Theater

Sept. 30	Stealth (PG-13)	7 p.m.
Oct. 1	Land of the Dead (R)	7 p.m.
Oct. 2	Catch That Kid (PG)	7 p.m.

## Movie Synopsis

**DEUCEBIGALOW: EUROPEAN GIGOLO** - Rob Schneider, Eddie Griffin - Deuce Bigalow is seduced back to his unlikely pleasure-for-pay profession, when his former pimp T.J. Hicks is implicated in the murders of Europe's greatest gigolos. Deuce must go back to work in order to clear his good friend's name. Along the way, he must compete against the powerful European Union of prosti-dudes and court another bevy of abnormal female clients including the beautiful Eva, who suffers from acute obsessive-compulsive disorder.

**SKY HIGH** - Kurt Russell, Michael Angarano - When you're the son of the world's most legendary superheroes The Commander and Jetstream, there is only one school for you - Sky High, an elite high school that is entrusted with the responsibility of molding today's power-gifted students into tomorrow's superheroes. The problem is that Will is starting with no superpowers of his own and, worst of all, instead of joining the ranks of the "Hero" class, he finds himself relegated to being a "Sidekick." Now he must somehow survive his freshman year while dealing with an overbearing gym coach, a bully with super speed and a dangerous rebel with a grudge (and the ability to shoot fire from his hands)... not to mention the usual angst, parental expectations and girl problems that accompany teenage life.

**WEDDING CRASHERS** - Owen Wilson, Vince Vaughn - Vaughn and Wilson star as a pair of divorce mediators who spend their weekends crashing weddings in a search for Ms. Right...for a night. But when one of them falls for the engaged daughter of an influential and eccentric politician at the social event of the year, they get roped into spending a weekend at the family's palatial waterfront estate and quickly find themselves in over their heads.

Admission: Adults age 12 and over \$4, children \$2.  
The Ederle Theatre box office opens one hour prior to show time.  
Tickets to blockbuster shows are presold at Baskin Robbins.



## VHS sports

A Vicenza High Sschool Volleyball player tips the ball over the net during a match Saturday against American Overseas School of Rome, while #13 follows the action closely. VHS Volleyball Girls beat AOSR in three matches: 25-6, 25-12, 25-21. (Photo by Laura Kreider, Outlook Staff)

Other VHS stats from Saturday:

VHS Volleyball Boys lost to AOSR: 20-25; 20-25; 25-27.

VHS Football lost to Giessen: 6-31.

VHS Cross Country lost to AOSR with the following times from the VHS runners:

VHS-Rachel O'Neil 29:10 (middle school)

VHS-Brock Sierminski 32:16

VHS-David Sherrick 32:17

VHS-Kiah Rashid 33:18 (middle school)

## Volunteers needed for Disability Awareness Month event

The Equal Employment Opportunity office is sponsoring a Disability Awareness Day on Oct. 20, beginning at 8:30 a.m. at the Hall of Heroes in observance of National Disability Employment Awareness Month.

Volunteers from the community and workforce are needed to simulate disabilities such as visual, hearing, and mobility impairments. The purpose of the event is to increase awareness and understanding of the issues facing people with disabilities in the community and workforce.

Employment volunteers will be tasked to simulate a disability while performing their regular work duties for a period of three hours. Supervisors will have sufficient time to make their work environments accessible to accommodate the employee with the disability.

Community volunteers will also be tasked to simulate a disability for three hours while going about their normal routine on base using the facilities and services offered by the installation.

Volunteers will be given appropriate adaptive devices such as a wheelchair, earplugs, blindfold, eye patch, crutches, sling or cane to simulate their disability.

After the simulation is completed, community and employment volunteers, as well as their respective supervisors and co-workers will have the opportunity to evaluate and provide feedback on some of the challenges facing people with disabilities in the work environment and public facilities.

To volunteer or for more information, contact Karen Hornstein, Individuals with Disabilities program manager at 634-6090 or the EEO Office at 634-7976 or 634-7084 by Oct. 5.



## 22nd ASG Civilian Awards

The 22nd ASG held a Civilian Awards ceremony Sept. 16 at the Post Theater. The following awards were presented and are listed in no specific order.

**Certificate of Achievement:** Jamie Zawadski, Peggy Schadler, Chris Pittman, Christine Heiland, Stephanie Curtis, Gina Miller, Paola Liberatore, Shannon Morris, Angela Donald, Allie Vallery, and Joy Chalmers.

**Scroll of Appreciation:** Claudio Adamo, Antillo Bizzari, Renato Cogolati, Sergio Cuomo, Mario Saggin, Christa Griffin-Stevens, Alberto Frigo, Ulderico Strucco, Christopher Hess, Giorgio Lovato, Jim Miller, Tami Boutwell, Dayna Brown, Cristina Knight, Ebony King, Jose Chavez, Chad Muckelvaney, Joshua Benitez.

**Special Award:** Allen Ebert, International Military Community Executives Association Award (Photos provided by the 7th ATC Photo Lab)

Italo Strucco,  
Certificate of Retirement  
16 Years IMMA

Romilda Torrente,  
Certificate of Retirement  
21 Years DFAC

Larry Growcock,  
Length of Service Award  
40 Years



### Training together

Italian soldiers treat a casualty during their 24-hour, condensed Combat Life-Saver Course here last week. The course was instructed by Roy Visona and Max Scudeler, two paramedics with the Vicenza Health Clinic. (Photo by Barbara Romano, 7th ATC)



### Squaring things away

Soldiers from the 495th Movement Control Team pack an ISU-90 with equipment and supplies in preparation for their upcoming deployment. The Soldiers get their container loaded prior to Installation Staging Area inspection by the USAG-V, DOL Plans and Operations team. (Photo by Alex Menzies, DOL)

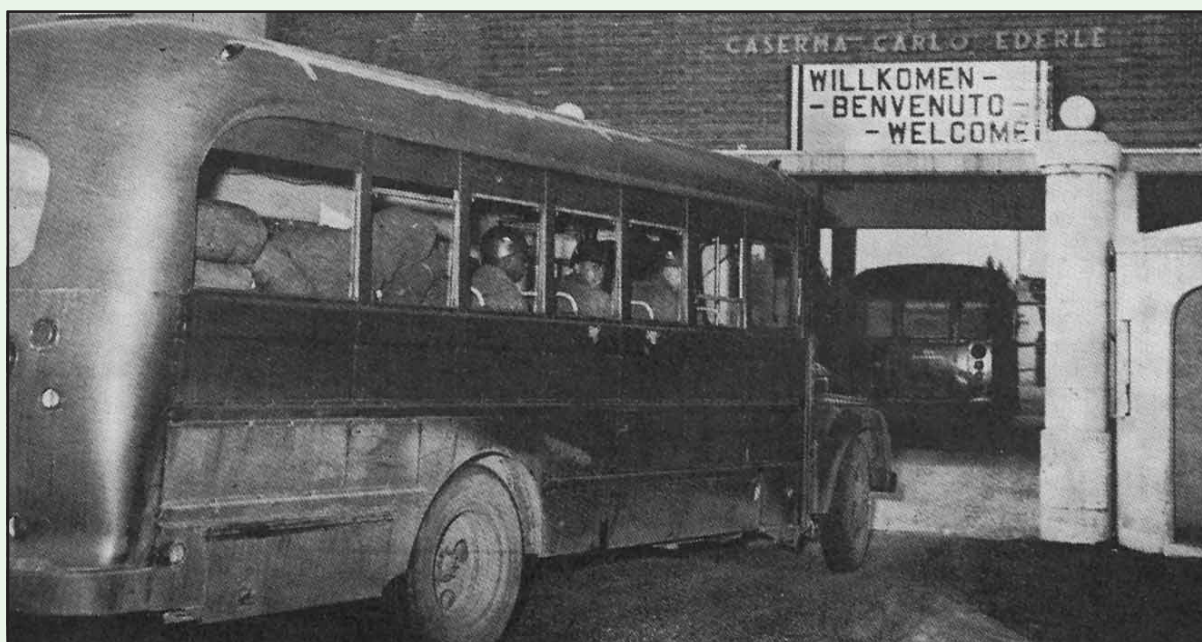
## SETAF to celebrate 50 years in Italy

SETAF will be celebrating its 50th anniversary this year on Hoekstra Field at Caserma Ederle. The festivities begin Oct. 23 with food, music and plenty to keep the children busy. The event will also feature a display showcasing a history of the Southern European Task Force and its accomplishments through the years. The

anniversary, which runs from 1-7 p.m., is free and open to all members of the community, Italian, military personnel and families. Tuesday's events will include the formal celebration of the 50-year anniversary, with a ceremony at 11 a.m. and a performance by the CINCSOUTH NATO Band on Hoekstra Field at 2 p.m.



Above: A group of Italian and American Soldiers meet for the first time in Vicenza. Below: The first bus loads of GIs arrive at Caserma Ederle in 1955 from Austria. (Photos provided by SETAF Public Affairs)



## Rosh Hashanah A time of reflection

**Lt. Col. S. R. November**  
*Special to the Outlook*

Rosh Hashanah is the Jewish New Year which commemorates the creation of the physical world. It is believed to be the time when one's fate for the following year is determined by G-d. This determination is felt to be based on our actions during the preceding year.

Providing the opportunity for us to reflect on the previous year's deeds, misdeeds and spiritual growth (or lack of), Rosh Hashanah gives us the possibility of modifying any negative decrees. The means to do this is by repentance, charity and prayer.

Repentance involves not only admission of wrong doing but also a will to not repeat. The Hebrew word that is close to repentance is Tshuva, which also means "return." It is a return to G-d, to be close to the almighty.

Giving charity to the poor is an important ingredient in determining what the coming year will bring. Since the entire physical world belongs to G-d, including our possessions, then we are stewards, to give to others in a compassionate way.

Prayer is the last main factor. With heartfelt prayers for ourselves and others we can have an influence. Prayer especially is important during the two days of Rosh Hashanah.

This year those days fall on Oct. 4 and 5. The holy days begin the preceding evening at nightfall.

Yom Kippur, the day of atonement, is on Oct. 13. It is the day our fate is sealed. Jews pray almost the whole day and fast for 24 hours.

The fast allows us to separate ourselves from the physical and concentrate on the spiritual to become close to G-d.

This year the post hopes to have Rosh Hashanah services on or near the post beginning at 9:30 a.m. on Oct. 4 and 5.

If you wish to register for services, please call 0444-51-5129 or 335-794-0564, or email: november6@msn.com. Alternatively, you can call the chapel at 0444-71-7519 or 634-7519 for more information.

May we all, regardless of religious affiliation, or none, be inscribed for a year of peace, prosperity, health, and increasing spirituality.